

**SUMMARY OF THE
PROFICIENCY TESTING COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 7, 2000**

The Proficiency Testing Committee of the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) met by teleconference, on Tuesday, March 7, 2000. The meeting was led by its chair, Ms. Barbara Burmeister of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene. *The main purpose of this meeting was to discuss the status of the combined PT Fields of Testing and Acceptance Criteria (EPA National Standards and NELAC PT FOT tables), finalize the PT FAQs, start discussions of Section 2.0, Interim Standards and potential integration of SDWA regulation into Chapter 2, finalize plans for the committee's upcoming face-to-face meeting, discuss PT matrix and fields of testing, and cover any new comments received to date.*

INTRODUCTION

The status of the Action Items from the teleconference on February 22, 2000 is as follows:

- Ms. Burmeister sent the PT fields of testing and acceptance criteria list to Ms. Jeanne Hankins to post on the NELAC website. Ms. Burmeister will follow-up with Ms. Hankins on the status of this posting, noting that EPA still has Internet posting issues with all maintained websites.
- Mr. Chuck Wibby and Mr. Matt Caruso reviewed existing data on UCMR analytes in the WP and determined that there is enough data to calculate acceptance criteria and concentration ranges. They will present the data to the committee for discussion at the face-to-face meeting in April.
- Mr. Larry Jackson's PT process flowchart will be added to the FAQs. Ms. Burmeister will follow-up with Mr. Jackson on the status of using this flowchart.
- The Committee will discuss Ms. Burmeister's response to Mr. Ralph Obernauf's questions during this meeting.
- The Committee will discuss Mr. Caruso's response to Ms. Jodi Moss's questions during this meeting.

PT FIELDS OF TESTING AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA LIST

Ms. Burmeister provided a brief update in Mr. Caruso's absence. Since the NELAC website is still not available to be updated, the PT Fields of Testing and Acceptance Criteria List was sent to the NELAP AA's. There has been no transition committee follow-up to date. Mr. Matt Caruso and Mr. Chuck Wibby will present the criteria and ranges for UCMR analytes at our face-to-face meeting.

Finalize PT FAQs

Mr. Chuck Wibby will draft an FAQ pertaining to the RCRA-Water/RCRA-Solid matrix issue. Mr. Wibby will have this FAQ completed for discussion at our face-to-face meeting.

DISCUSSION OF SECTION 2.0, INTERIM STANDARDS – DOES THIS SECTION NEED TO BE CHANGED?

Ms. Burmeister raised the issue to the PT Committee about whether or not we needed to change Section 2.0, Interim Standards. Ms. Burmeister encouraged the Committee to think about this issue for discussion during our face-to-face meeting.

DISCUSSION OF HOW TO INTEGRATE SDWA REGULATION INTO CHAPTER 2

Ms. Burmeister raised the issue to the PT Committee about how we can integrate the SDWA regulation into Chapter 2. Ms. Burmeister encouraged the Committee to think about this issue for discussion during our face-to-face meeting.

FACE-TO-FACE COMMITTEE MEETING

The face-to-face PT Committee meeting will be held in Denver on April 11th and 12th. Mr. Chuck Wibby will arrange for a meeting place at the Westin Tabor Center where Ms. Autry has arranged for Committee's accommodations. Mr. Wibby mentioned that a cab ride from the airport would cost about \$35 and encouraged car pooling/rental cars. Committee members are to email Mr. Wibby flight arrival times for Monday, April 11th. Ms. Barbara Burmeister has distributed an agenda for the meeting that was acceptable to the everyone on the teleconference.

PT MATRIX AND FIELDS OF TESTING (REGULATORY COORDINATION COMMITTEE)

Ms. Barbara Burmeister emailed Dr. Marcia Davis, Chairperson of Chapter 1, for the status of her committee's discussions regarding the fields of testing for accreditation. No response has been received to date.

M&O Committee

There has been no contact from the Membership and Outreach Committee to our liaison, Ms. Cindy Nettrour.

NEW COMMENTS RECEIVED

Ms. Barbara Burmeister prepared a response to questions from Ralph Obenauf and Mr. Matt Caruso prepared a response to Ms. Jody Moss who both had questions about implementation. Both draft responses were emailed to the committee members for approval. After a short discussion to review the issues for Mr. David Freidman, everyone agreed the responses should be sent. Ms. Burmeister will email the responses at the end of the teleconference.

EPA/NIST Items

Bob Graves from EPA, Cincinnati, reported that the National Standards for Whole Effluent Toxicity are available in draft form. Dr. Faust Parker will review the draft and submit comments to Bob. There continues to be Internet problems for the EPA.

ACTION ITEMS

**PROFICIENCY TESTING COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 7, 2000**

Item No.	Action	Date to be Completed
1.	Ms. Barbara Burmeister will follow-up on the PT Fields of Testing with Ms. Jeanne Hankins.	03/21/00
2.	The PT process flowchart will be added to the PT FAQs. Ms. Burmeister will follow-up with Mr. Larry Jackson on the status of the flowchart inclusion.	03/21/00
3.	Mr. Matt Caruso and Mr. Chuck Wibby will bring the UCMR analyte acceptance criteria and concentration ranges to the committee's face-to-face meeting for discussion.	04/11/00
4.	Ms. Barbara Burmeister will send the response to Mr. Ralph Obenauf's question.	03/07/00
5.	Ms. Barbara Burmeister will send the response to Ms. Jody Moss's question.	03/07/00
6.	Committee members should be ready to discuss changes to Section 2.0, Interim Standards and how to integrate the SDWA regulation into Chapter 2 at our face-to-face meeting.	04/11/00
7.	Committee members should contact Mr. Chuck Wibby with their arrival information for the face-to-face meeting.	04/04/00
8.	Mr. Chuck Wibby will draft a FAQ regarding the RCRA-Water/RCRA-Solid matrix issue.	04/11/00

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PROFICIENCY TESTING COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 7, 2000**

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